WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method for performing full string evaluation of compound words comprising:

receiving data input corresponding to at least one compound word;

identifying word combinations of shorter words that may be combined to form at least a portion of the at least one compound word; and

prioritizing word combinations based on at least one criteria, the at least one criteria including distinguishing word combinations having a particular total quantity of shorter words from word combinations having a different total quantity of shorter words.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein prioritizing word combinations based on at least one criteria includes prioritizing word combinations having a lower total quantity of shorter words would have a higher priority than word combinations having a higher total quantity of shorter words.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein prioritizing word combinations based on at least one criteria includes distinguishing word combinations forming the at least one compound word in its entirety from word combinations forming a portion of the at least one compound word.

4.   The method of claim 1, further comprising scoring each word combination based on probability of occurrence.

5.   The method of claim 4, wherein scoring each word combination based on probability of occurrence includes:

determining a score for each shorter word of a particular word combination; and

determining a score for the particular word combination by combining the scores of all shorter words of the particular word combination.

6.   The method of claim 1, wherein prioritizing word combinations based on at least one criteria includes distinguishing word combinations having a particular score from word combinations having a different score.

7.   The method of claim 1, wherein identifying word combinations of shorter words includes identifying all character combinations that may correspond to the data input.

8.   The method of claim 1, wherein identifying word combinations of shorter words includes eliminating at least one character combination based on probability of occurrence.

9.   A wireless communication device for performing full string evaluation of compound words comprising:

a user interface configured to receive data input corresponding to at least one compound word;

a processor, coupled to the user interface, configured to identify word combinations of shorter words that may be combined to form at least a portion of the at least one compound word; and

a display, coupled to the processor, configured to show the word combinations in a priority based on at least one criteria, the at least one criteria including distinguishing word combinations having a particular total quantity of shorter words from word combinations having a different total quantity of shorter words.

10.   The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a database, coupled to the processor, configured to store a plurality of shorter words but omit at least one compound word.

11.   The apparatus of claim 9, further comprising a transceiver, coupled to the processor, configured to transmits a message that includes at least one compound word identified by the processor.

12.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein, at any given time, the display shows one of either the word combination having the higher priority and a plurality of word combinations in priority order.

13.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the at least one criteria includes word combinations having a lower total quantity of shorter words would have a higher priority than word combinations having a higher total quantity of shorter words.

14.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the at least one criteria includes distinguishing word combinations forming the at least one compound word in its entirety from word combinations forming a portion of the at least one compound word.

15.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the processor scores each word combination based on probability of occurrence.

16.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein a score for a particular word combination corresponds to a combined score of all shorter words of the particular word combination.

17.   The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the at least one criteria includes distinguishing word combinations having a particular score from word combinations having a different score.